

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 04565 130915Z

ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 OES-02 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSC-05 NSCE-00 /037 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7426

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAIROBI 4565

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UNEP

SUBJECT: UNEP SENIOR APPOINTMENTS

REF: STATE 077113

1. PERMREP MET WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TOLBA APRIL 12 AND EXPRESSED TO HIM OUR APPRECIATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF PETER THACHER AS HIS DEPUTY. TOLBA TOLD PERMREP THAT HE HAD GREAT CONFIDENCE IN THACHER AND HE THOUGHT HIS PROMOTION TO DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WOULD HAVE A GOOD EFFECT ON THE MORALE OF THE STAFF. DECISION ALSO REFLECTED HIS GRATITUDE FOR US MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT OF UNEP.

2. WHEN PERMREP INFORMED TOLBA THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THACHER REPLACED IN GENEVA WITH ANOTHER QUALIFIED AMERICAN, HE STATED HE WAS ALREADY COMMITTED TO APPOINTING A EUROPEAN. HE STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN PRESSURE FOR APPOINTMENT OF A EUROPEAN TO THIS POST SINCE THE TIME OF EXDIR STRONG. TOLBA STATED HE RESISTED SUCH PRESSURE UNTIL HE COULD FIND ANOTHER SUITABLE POSITION FOR THACHER. IN ANY CASE

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TOLBA BELIEVES THAT THE DIRECTOR OF EACH UNEP REGIONAL OFFICE SHOULD BE FROM THE REGION. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE STATED THAT "IN ABOUT A YEAR'S TIME" HE PLANNED ON UPGRADING THE NEW YORK LIAISON OFFICE TO MAKE IT BOTH LIAISON WITH UN HEADQUARTERS AND WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA. HE HAD IN MIND APPOINTING AN AMERICAN TO THIS POSITION AND DID NOT THINK

IT WAS TOO EARLY TO DEVELOP CANDIDATES FOR THAT
JOB. THE INDIVIDUAL HE HAD IN MIND SHOULD HAVE THE STATURE
TO RELATE TO AMBASSADORS TO THE UN, THE HIGHER ECHELONS
AT UN HEADQUARTERS AND THE APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENTS IN
THE US AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS. HE OF COURSE WISHED
TO HAVE HELD CLOSELY THE INFORMATION THAT HE PLANNED
TO UPGRADE NEW YORK LIAISON OFFICE UNTIL ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT
DEVELOPS FOR THE PRESENT INCUMBENT.

3. COMMENT: THACHER'S APPOINTMENT TO HEADQUARTERS AS DEPUTY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, IMPORTANT AS THAT MAY BE, WILL DECREASE
BY ONE THE NUMBER OF SENIOR AMERICANS IN UNEP. IN
PERMREP'S VIEW IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO SHAKE TOBLA'S
DETERMINATION TO PLACE A EUROPEAN IN CHARGE OF THE GENEVA
OFFICE. THE REORGANIZATION OF THE NEW YORK OFFICE AT
A MINIMUM IS A YEAR AWAY AND PROBABLY LONGER. THERE
ARE, HOWEVER, NO OTHER SENIOR APPOINTMENTS IN THE IMMEDIATE
OFFING.

DECON 4/13/79.
MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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